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Message Text

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44-L
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 NSC-05

EB-07 INR-07 INRE-00 SP-02 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IO-11

L-03 EUR-12 EA-07 CIAE-00 /083 W
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O 181612Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 200

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 2151

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID, USEGJC OVIP (ROBINSON, CHARLES W.)
SUBJECT: PASSING THE HAT FOR EGYPT

REF: STATE 038058

1. REFTEL RECEIVED TOO LATE IN DAY TO ENABLE ME TO SOUND OUT FAHMY'S REACTION. IN MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT EARLIER THIS AFTERNOON, HE AGAIN STRESSED HIS HOPE USG WILL ASSIST IN URGING ITS EUROPEAN, IRANIAN AND JAPANESE QUOTE FRIENDS UNQUOTE TO HELP OVERCOME EGYPT'S CONTINUING LIQUIDITY PLIGHT. SADAT ADDED THAT HE LOOKS FORWARD TO MEETING WITH UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON AND THAT SUCH MEETING WILL BE IN CAIRO, NOT ASWAN.

2. RE IDEA SUGGESTED REFTEL, MY GUESS IS FAHMY WILL FIND IT LESS THAN WHAT GOE HAS EXPECTED. STILL, THERE IS BARE CHANCE HE MAY BUY IT AS THE BEGINNING OF AN EFFORT. HE WOULD PROBABLY EXPECT SOME DONOR STATES, INCLUDING ARAB DONORS, TO DECLINE TO ATTEND.

3. I MUST ALSO INVITE ATTENTION TO SOME PROCATICAL PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH IDEA. FIRST,
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SINCE MOST DONOR COUNTRY REPS WILL DOUBTLESS

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HAVE TO GET INSTRUCTIONS RE PARTICIPATION, THRE
IS LITTLE TIME BETWEEN NOW AND PROPOSED FEB 27
DATE TO PERMIT THIS. SECOND, I KNOW THAT SOME
MAJOR DONOR COUNTRY REPS WILL NOT BE HERE ON
FEB 27. THUS, JAPANESE AMB WILL JUST HAVE LEFT
ON REASSIGNMENT WITH NO SUCCESSOR YET ON DECK.
ALSO SAUDI AMB WILL PROBABLY NOT YET HAVE RETURNED
FROM RIYADH, WHERE HE HAS GONE IN CONNECTION
WITH SADAT'S UPCOMING TRIP TO SAUDI ARABIA.
THIRD, NOTING HOW GOE OPERATES, I DOUBT THAT IT
CAN ASSEMBLE THE DATA REQUESTED PARA 4 IN SHORT
TIME BETWEEN NOW AND FEB 27. SITUATION IS
COMPOUNDED BY FACT THAT PRESIDENT, PRIMIN, FAHMY
AND ABU ISMAIL WILL ALL TROOP OFF TO SAUDI
ARABIA ON SAT AND WILL NOT BE ON HAD TO INSURE
THAT BUREAURACY PRODUCES. MINECON COOPERATION
ZAKI SHAFEI IS NOT KNOWN AS THE FASTEST WORKER
AND WOULD PROBABLY DEPUTE GAMAL NAZIR TO
ASSEMBLE NEEDED STATISTICS. NAZIR GOES OFF TO
GERMANY ON SAT FOR ONE WEEK.

4. WISH EMPHASIZE ABOVE ARE PRELIMINARY COMMENTS.
I WILL TRY TO SEE FAHMY TOMORROW TO MAKE PROPOSAL
AND INDICATE REQUIRED DATA. WILL THEREAFTER
REPORT HIS REACTION, REPEATING TO UNDER
SECRETARY ROBINSTON IN KINSHASA.
EILTS

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To: STATE
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